(b) To prevent the misuse of pre-natal diagnostic techniques for determination of the sex of the foetus, a Bill entitled 'The Pre-Natal Diagnostic Techniques (Regulation and Prevention of Misuse) Bill, 1994' had been passed by Parliament in the Monsoon Session of 1994. The President of India gave his assent to the Act on 20-9-1994 and the Act has been published in the gazette of India, Extraordinary Part II dated 20-9-94. The Act will be notified to come into force immediately after the Rules are framed and statutory authorities established.

(c) In view of the position explained in (a) above, the Question does not arise.

(d) The information has been given in (b) above.

Abolition of post of Chief Medical Officer in CGHS (Homoeopathy)

3851. SHRI RAJ NATH SINGH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that posts of senior level Medical Officer (Homoeopathy) for establishing consultancy unit in Indian system of medicine and Homoeopathy have been proposed by the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the post of Chief Medical Officer (Homoeopathy) in CGHS has been abolished and the same post has been created in Safdarjung Hospital;

(d) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and

(e) whether Government propose to fill up the gap created by the abolished post in any other manner?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI PABAN SINGH GHATOWAR): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) No, Sir. The post of Chief Medical Officer in the CGHS has only been transferred, temporarily, to the CGHS Specialist Wing of the Safdarjung Hospital.

(e) No such proposal for the present.

News Item "WHO Puzzled over Surat Epidemic"

3852. SHRIMATI MALTI SHARMA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to a news item captioned "WHO still puzzled over Surat Epidemic" which appeared in the Hindustan Times dated the 14th March, 1995;

(b) if so, the reaction of Government thereto; and

(c) what remedial measures Government propose to take so that the epidemic does not recure in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. C. SILVERA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Technical Advisory Committee, set up by the Government, is considering all aspects of the epidemic and is to submit its report by 31st July, 1995.

(c) The Government has initiated activities like surveillance, training of workers and upgradation of laboratories.

Recruitment of Ad-Hoc Doctors in AIIMS

3853. SHRIMATI MALTI SHARMA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have recently asked the authorities of All India Institute of Medical Science to recruit ad-hoc doctors; if so, the details of such directives and the follow-up action thereon.

(b) what is the number of the doctors terminated/suspended in AIIMS during the period of long strike;